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17 September 1955



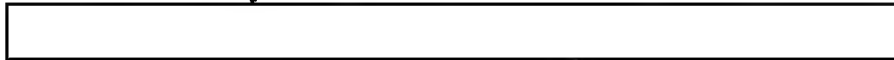
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State Dept. review completed

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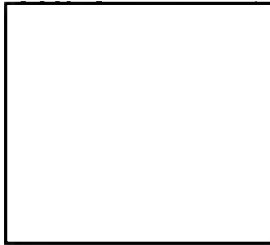
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1. COMMENT ON ANTI-PERON REVOLT IN ARGENTINE PROVINCES

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The uprising of army and navy elements which began early on 16 September is the latest phase of the continuing revolt against Peron and is the most co-ordinated attack against him since he came to power in Argentina in 1945. In contrast to the 16 June

revolt, army elements are now involved. While it is still impossible to assess the strength of the army and navy units in revolt, attacks were made almost simultaneously in at least five provinces. Later in the day, according to the official radio, the naval forces at the important navy bases of Rio Santiago and Puerto Belgrano joined the rebels. Forces loyal to Peron are attempting to suppress the armed outbreaks, and provincial commands are reportedly being reinforced by troops from Buenos Aires. There has been no fighting in the capital.

Rumors of the possible resignation of Peron have increased, since his speech reportedly scheduled for midmorning was not broadcast and he has not been mentioned by name over the official radio during the day.

As things now stand, this revolt against Peron will require support of some of the high army command in order to succeed without considerable and perhaps protracted bloodshed. (There is no information to suggest that the high command, or any member thereof, has abandoned Peron.)

Similarly, if the army should decide to force Peron's resignation and if he were to "call into the streets" the General Confederation of Labor serious civil war would ensue. (There have been reports over the past several years that the labor confederation has large amounts of small arms.)

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2. ADENAUER EXPLAINS HIS POSITION AT MOSCOW TALKS

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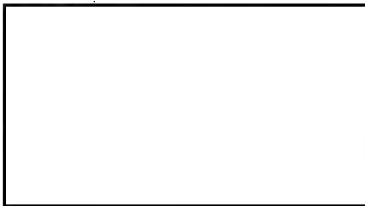
[REDACTED] Chancellor Adenauer told the American, British, and French ambassadors at Bonn on 15 September that domestic political considerations forced him to

yield in Moscow on the question of exchanging ambassadors. He said that if he had refused the Soviet offer to return prisoners on the grounds that he did not want a Soviet embassy in Bonn, his government would have jeopardized its prospects in the 1957 elections.

Conant comments that Adenauer and his closest advisers did not appear very happy about what had happened at Moscow.

3. NO CUT IN BRITAIN'S DEFENSE BUDGET NEXT YEAR

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British defense minister Selwyn Lloyd told American officials on 13 September that Britain has no intention whatever of reducing its defense expenditures next year.

Comment

Preliminary study of national submissions to the 1955 NATO Annual Review indicates that Britain plans to maintain its present defense spending levels and is taking measures to achieve the streamlined posture recommended by NATO military authorities for warfare in a nuclear age. These modernization measures involve net reductions in naval and air goals and drastic reorganization, in some cases a scrapping, of parts of the traditional British military structure to implement the new concept.



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5. ALGERIAN SITUATION REMAINS TENSE

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The severe measures used by the French to restore order following the uprising of 20 August in Algeria are embittering even pro-French Moslems and are driving many to

join the rebels, according to the American consulate general in Algiers. A small area near Philippeville, on the Mediterranean coast, appears to be in the hands of rebels who are reportedly trying to establish control of a region they can proclaim "Free Algeria."

Uneasiness, bordering on panic among French settlers in eastern Algeria, is increasing as religious leaders advocate a "holy war."

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